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206228US-0 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

SATOSHI NIIYAMA ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/807,425

.

FILED: April 20, 2001

FOR: LIQUID CRYSTAL OPTICAL ELEMENT

AND METHOD FOR ITS PRODUCTION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

3. (Amended) The method for producing a liquid crystal optical element according to Claim 1, wherein each of R_1 and R_2 which are independent of each other, is an ethylene group or a propylene group.

